

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR :

Revised Basic Plan (1-8-1943 to 30-11-1943.)

		Tons,
Rice	Sind	15,589
	Tanjore	100
	Eastern States	1,038
Paddy (in terms of rice) :	Sind	2,938
	Kandhkot	679
Millet	Punjab and Sind	8,556
Wheat	Punjab States, Sind and Overseas	18,093
Wheat Products :	Do.	3,996
Gram	Do.	2,430
Barley	Punjab States	820
Maize	Do.	835

Preliminary, Kharif, Plan (1-11-1943 to 31-10-1944.)

Rice	Sind	72,283
	Bezwada	5,544
	Tanjore	33,624
	Central Province	788
Paddy (in terms of rice)	Sind	10,354
	Kandhkot	2,671
Millet	Punjab and Sind	18,607
Maize	Punjab States	8,923

Preliminary, Rabi, Plan (May 1944 to April 1945.)

Wheat	Punjab States, Sind and Overseas	38,646
Wheat Products	Sind	6,538

Profit and loss on account of purchase of food grains.

243. * **MR. P. O. THOMAS :** Will the Government be pleased to state what gain or loss our Government had or sustained in the matter of purchasing food grains and distributing them in the State up till 15-11-1943?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The accounts are being audited and the result of the audit will disclose the profit or loss on the undertaking.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE : May I know when the auditing will be over?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : As soon as possible.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know whether the Government have any information that the Cochin Government have published the statement of profit and loss accounts?

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MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No, Sir.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: When did the Government begin to purchase food-grains?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It is from September 1943.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I take it as at least 3 years?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: About 2 years. Before the war started a small quantity was purchased from Tanjore.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know why the profit and loss account was not audited at the close of the year?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The accounts are being audited through the joint action of the Cochin Government and at various centres of purchase in—Karachi, Tanjore Bazwada etc. The officers of this Government as well as of the Cochin Government are at this work now.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN (*Kinnatnad cum Parur*): Was it not done at the close of the last year?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Auditing is a continuous process and it is being carried on.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: What would be the result after audit?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It is too early to say, because the figures are in the process of examination.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Why did not the Government do the auditing earlier?

PRESIDENT: Even after this audit, it will not be found what the profit and loss will be, because the profit will depend upon the sale and till the sales are completely over, the final figures of profits will not be known. Losses will not be known until all the godowns are emptied of their stock. How does the honourable member expect any statement of profit and loss until the work is completely disposed of? The only way is to audit certain grades from Punjab, some from Sind, some from Orissa, some from Central Provinces and some from Madras. Cochin and Travancore have jointly purchased so that how much has gone to Cochin and how much has come down here are not known. These figures will have to be compared with those of the selling department. They will have to check up their grades of stock kept as well as in transit either through *Valloons* or by road. If only the final figures are taken, we shall be able to know how much quantity was sent by the despatching companies, how much was bought and how much remains here.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know from the honourable member whether the accounts will be published only after the grains are sold?

PRESIDENT: It is now impossible to say. Honourable member knows that we came to an agreement by which four times the allotment made to Cochin would be despatched to us. It was decided that one-fifth of the whole despatches would be for Cochin and four-fifths for us. Because of our food position, quite recently a preliminary arrangement has been made by which three-fourth of the despatches

would come to Travancore and one fourth would go to Cochin. The agents such as Messrs. Volkart Bros. have not also sent their accounts which have to be examined at Cochin and in Travancore, and until those accounts are finally settled we cannot come to any provisional conclusion. But it is not necessary that if losses occurred, the grains should be sold, because until the several processes of stock-taking are gone through, which might reveal a certain amount of shortage and a certain amount of alleged misappropriation, we shall not know exactly where we are. We shall know them probably in three months time.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : If I remember a right, the Cochin Government has published its statement of accounts for this year.

PRESIDENT : I do not know whether they published the accounts.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : That too cannot be final.

PRESIDENT : They are only provisional figures and should not be taken as accurate.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : Can a provisional statement be given?

PRESIDENT : That kind of statement is easy to publish at any moment, because we know how much have paid—about 12 crores of rupees—That amount will be given on one side and the amount realised by sale given on the other side. We can say that the rest is in stock. That sort of account can be published even today.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : Is it not possible to have an approximate estimate of the stock, even now, from the figures available from the godowns?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes, Sir. We have an idea of the approximate stock and that is worth about Rs. 4 crores.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : May I know where lies the difficulty to give at least a provisional statement of accounts?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : I have given the answer already.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether it will be in the interests of the State if the stock on hand is published?

PRESIDENT : There was a time when in the interests of the State we deliberately did not publish the quantity of stock, because there were other portions of the country which were suffering very badly and if it was known that we had quite a large stock, there might have been some trouble. That question does not arise now, because the Government of India recently stated that our men are better fed than any other people in the world, and that Bengal was a deficit area. Because Bengal was nearer and more vociferous, the Government of India were more anxious to send grain to that place. Now, that they say that Bengal is a surplus area, there is no difficulty in publishing our figures now.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : My point is this. The Director of Food Supplies has got at least a provisional estimate about the stock. He knows the amount he has spent for the purchase of foodgrains. At least as an answer to this question he could in fairness, have stated the amount spent for the purchase and also the provisional stock on hand so that this House can have an idea about it.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The question is very definite, for which an indefinite answer will be of no avail.

Food grains allotment.

244. * **MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state the quantity (in tons) of food grains allotted to Travancore from British India for the year 1945-46 and the quantity purchased and imported up to 30-6-1945?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Allotments of food grains for the year 1945-46 will be intimated by the Government of India only towards the close of October 1945.

Rice allotment.

245. * **MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state; (a) the quantity (in tons) of rice allotted to Travancore from Madras Presidency for the year 1120; (b) the quantity so far purchased and imported from Madras Presidency; and (c) the average price (per maund or bag) at which this quantity was purchased?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (a) There is no direct allotment to Travancore from Madras Presidency, 70,361 tons rice allotted to the State for Kharif year November 1944—October 1945 from Orissa, Central Provinces and Eastern States will be supplied by Madras on a replacement basis.

(b) 43,205 tons rice has so far been purchased and moved.

(c) Rs. 10-12 as. per maund at source inclusive of replacement cost.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : May I know from the Honourable member the average cost of transport for a bag of rice?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER : The overhead charges, including cost of transport, loading and unloading will amount to Rs. 3 per bag.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : That is, Rs. 1½ per maund?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER : Yes.

Recondition and re-stock of bags of food grains.

246. * **MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of wages per 100 bags granted to recondition and re-stock in bags the food grains received at Chackai, Trivandrum by the Food Department of Government during the first 6 months of the year 1120;